## PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

## A NEW SPECIES OF TAILLESS BATRACHIAN FROM NORTH AMERICA.

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A very interesting addition to the fauna of the United States was found in a recent collection kindly presented to the National Museum by Mr. R. D. Camp. It is a small species of the Mexican genus Syrrhophus, already represented in Texas by the type species Syrrhophus marnockii Cope, the original specimens of which came from near San Antonio. These Leptodactylid toads differ from Eleutherodactylus and Lithodytes in the absence of vomerine teeth.

## Syrrhophus campi new species.

Diagnosis.—Heel of extended hind leg reaches center of eye; diameter of tympanum slightly more that half that of eye; back coarsely granular; head wide.

Type.—U. S. Nat. Mus. Cat. No. 52,290; Brownsville, Texas; R. D. Camp, collector.

Description of type-specimen.—Tongue broadly pear-shaped, somewhat truncate behind with a tendency to a posterior lateral projection on each side; nostrils much nearer the tip of snout than the eye, their distance from the latter slightly less than the eye diameter and equal their distance from each other; upper eyelids much narrower than interorbital space which is wider than diameter of eye; tympanum distinct, circular, its rim interrupted above, slightly more than half the diameter of eye, distance from the eye one-third its own diameter; fingers with well-developed terminal disks which are truncate anteriorly; subarticular tubercles very strongly developed; palms strongly tuberculate; second finger scarcely longer than first; toes with considerably smaller disks; soles with small tubercles; both inner and outer metatarsal tubercles present and well developed; no tarsal fold; the bent limbs being pressed along the side, knee and elbow overlap; hind limbs being extended along the side, heel reaches beyond posterior angle of eye; hind limbs being

placed vertically to the axis of the body, the heels overlap; skin above densely tubercular, except on snout and interorbital space which are nearly smooth; underside of body smooth, of femurs granular. Color (in alcohol) brownish gray above, with dark brown irregular markings which on the back join to form four ill-defined longitudinal bands; indication of a dark band across the interorbital space; ground color on top of snout anterior to this band and the outer space between the dorsal bands paler than elsewhere; a dark band from nostrils over lores, through eyes to above tympanum; sides with numerous small white spots; limbs with dusky cross bands and whitish spots on the light spaces; underside white, chin and throat minutely sprinkled with dusky.

Dimensions.—Tip of snout to vent, 24 millimeters; width of head, 8; nostrils to eye, 2.5; interorbital space, 3; diameter of eye, 2.75; diameter of tympanum, 1.5; fore leg from axilla, 14; hind leg from vent, 34; vent to heel, 19.

Coloration of living specimens.—Iris golden with black reticulations; ground color above olive clay, dark markings blackish; side of face dark with the loreal band blackish and whitish spots on upper lip and under eye; underside whitish, with more or less purplish tinge.

Variation.—The chief variation is found in the coloration of the alcoholic specimens, many of which are quite pale above with numerous small dusky spots without much indication of the pattern described in the type. A pale canthal stripe is often markedly set off from the dark loreal stripe, as is also a pale cross band in front of the interorbital black band. Younger specimens are often uniformly light brownish gray, and the very youngest, of which I have examined a number not measuring more than 7 mm. in total length, seem always to be without any dusky spots on back. All show more or less definite indications of cross markings on the legs. The skin above is equally tubercular in all the specimens, young as well as adult.

Remarks.—This species in many respects approaches S. leprus in general proportions and aspect (except coloration) but the head is somewhat narrower, the snout is longer and more pointed, the second finger is shorter and the foot longer. It differs from all the species described before by its coarsely granular upper surface.

This interesting novelty, according to information furnished by Mr. Camp, was "found under boxes and boards about buildings in city." A number of very young specimens, 7–8 mm. long, were collected with the adult ones. They show no trace of a tail and it is quite likely, as Dr. Thomas Barbour has suggested to me, that they are hatched fully developed from the egg, as we know to be the case with some of the species of Eleutherodactylus.